

Columbia Planning Unit Forest Land Planning

Longview

Informal Meeting, October 30, 2006

Summary of Input

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is moving forward with its planning effort for forested state trust lands in the Columbia planning unit, which generally state trust ownerships through southwest Washington region – the Columbia River area including Rock Creek, Washougal, Larch, Elochoman, Skamokawa, Salmon Creek, Mount St. Helens area including Toutle, Siouxon, Speelyai, Merwin, Davis Creek, and scattered parcels throughout the planning area.

Information gathered from this and subsequent public meetings and other input will assist DNR in developing management strategies specifically for these areas. Following are comments / ideas about the three main subject areas gathered at the Longview meeting attended by representatives of recreational and environmental groups, trust beneficiaries, and forest products representatives.

Public Safety, Access, and Resource Abuse

- The Toutle Block does not have public access across Weyerhaeuser land.
- There is an incredible viewpoint at the saddle at the crest of Spud Mountain with a view of five volcanoes.
- The Elk Rock isolated land parcel of state trust land offers recreational opportunities for parking and should not be traded to the national monument.

Recreation

- There needs to be a recreation plan for the Toutle Block if access is secured for berry picking, wildlife viewing, mushroom picking, hunting, and etc.
- Recreation opportunities on state trust lands may be achieved by a coordinated effort with the Department of Wildlife and other groups.
- Lewis River drainage is an important recreation area for the Portland and Vancouver areas.

Habitat and Forest Management

- A former DNR parcel has landslide issues.
- Clark County wants to be notified about management activities on state trust lands adjacent to Siouxon Park.
- Clark County is interested in the Ridgefield isolated parcels for habitat issues.
- Large landowners along the East Fork of the Lewis River provide connectivity of habitat for fish.

- Clark County wants to partnership in the future management of isolated state trust lands near Battleground.